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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1904.

## The Massachusetts Way.

At the Hartford convention of the American Roadmakers' Association, Mr. W. E. McClintock, chairman of the Massachusetts Highway Commission, read a paper in which he discussed the subject of roadmaking in its financial, physical and social conditions, and described the work as carried on in Massachusetts. The State is divided into fourteen counties, and there are 321 towns and 86 cities. The county road affairs are managed by three commissioners in each county, the road and street work of cities by superintendents appointed by the Mayors and confirmed by the Aldermen, and the town roads are in charge of superintendents elected by the selectmen. With few exceptions all road work is paid for out of a general tax levied by boards of assessors, and rarely is any part of the cost charged to abutting property. No part of the road tax is worked out.

Roadmaking in Massachusetts began with the building of turnpikes by private corporations, a toll being charged to all who passed over the road. But these ventures failed to be profitable and the turnpikes were passed over to the towns to take care of.

The first appropriation by the State was made in 1835, when \$100,000 was voted for roads. This was increased the next year to \$200,000, and in each succeeding year further appropriations were made, making the aggregate up to the present time \$5,000,000. With this money the commission has built 5/16 miles of good, hard, smooth road in various parts of the Commonwealth. The first cost of building these roads is paid by the State, but one-fourth of the money so expended is repaid by the counties. The roads are maintained by the commission out of the State funds, the towns in which they may lie paying back to the State a sum not exceeding \$50 a mile in any one year. The average cost of maintenance is about \$100 per mile.

Roadbuilding in Massachusetts is carried on under the supervision of a State commission, consisting of three men appointed by the Governor for three years. The State is divided into five divisions, each division having a local engineer, who attends to constructing and maintaining the State roads. All roads built by the State are upon petitions from the cities, towns and counties. Five per cent. of any appropriation made by the Legislature is set apart to be used in towns having a valuation of \$1,000,000 or less, and another reserve of five per cent. of any appropriation may be used in towns in which no State road has been built, and with a valuation of more than \$1,000,000.

The Massachusetts commission builds a standard road of broken stone, six inches thick after rolling, whenever the traffic is not over heavy or light, and the subgrade is composed of porous material. This thickness under certain conditions may be increased to twelve inches, or decreased to four inches, according to the demands. Whatever the thickness of the surface or the nature of the foundation, the first course of broken stone in all cases is spread on a carefully prepared and thoroughly compacted surface. The broken stone is spread in courses and each course is rolled separately with a steam roller. The surface of each course is evened up with fragments of rock of the same size that make up the respective courses. The State employs stone crushing machinery at its quarries and supplies its own material for roadmaking.

Here it is again. Massachusetts has a State commission which supervises the work, and that is what Virginia should have by all means. The most popular plan seems to be co-operation between the State and the county. The State appropriates a part of the money and the county appropriates the balance. Then they work together under State supervision. It is also to be noted that in all such cases the work is done substantially at the beginning. It is better to have a few miles of first class road than to spend the money in patching up many miles of poor road.

## The Negro in Hayti.

It was recently reported to the authorities in Washington that rebels in San Domingo had committed breaches of international law by entering our consulate at Samana with armed force and taking two refugees out. It may be necessary for our government to discipline San Domingo before the trouble is over. Just what the revolution is about we do not know, except in a general way. But there is always some sort of a revolution either going on or brewing in this island. It is here that we

have the best opportunity of studying the negro's capacity for self-government. Recently the one hundredth anniversary of the setting up of a negro government over the island of Hayti was celebrated. For a century the negroes there have attempted to rule themselves and they made a sorry mess of it.

In connection with this celebration a writer in the Philadelphia Public Ledger gives an interesting sketch of the history of Hayti or San Domingo. At the outset he says that the island is one of the most richly endowed regions of the earth, land in which probably more elements of wealth are accumulated than any other spot on the terrestrial globe. The population numbers about two million souls. Three-fourths of the people are in the French-speaking western part, in Hayti proper, much the more important section. But they form, says this correspondent, probably the most degraded population that anywhere on the earth pretends to nationality or civilization. The Haytiens are full-blooded negroes. On the San Domingo side mulattoes predominate; on the western there are only blacks with true African features. They live in huts in the hills and sublet on bananas, beans, rice, salt fish and rum. The cabins are rude affairs and each householder has as many wives as he can persuade to live with him and contribute to his support. Under negro rule this rich land has gone to waste. The fine roads and bridges and great buildings of former days are now in ruins; the harbors are filling up; the wharves are falling down; the rich plains, once covered with grain and tobacco, are hid beneath a scrub of prickly acacia; degeneration is everywhere.

The towns, according to this correspondent, are as filthy as one can imagine, and the negroes who live in them are as degenerate as it is possible for human beings to be. Nothing that calls itself civilization, says the Ledger man, has ever ebbed so low before. He tells us, moreover, that Voodooism is rampant; that every night the tom-tom calls the people together to take part in the weird religious dance, and that scenes as wild and savage as any witnessed in the wilderness of Africa are common. There is always a sacrifice, and time and again children have been butchered for the feast, their flesh torn and passed around among the savages and voraciously eaten.

But enough of this sickening story. As for government, Hayti and San Domingo both profess to be republics, but always have been military despotisms. There are no elections; liberty is a fiction; the pretense of self-government is a farce; presidents have always obtained office by force of arms and ruled by terrorism.

That is what the negro has done for himself in a fertile island, where life might have been made delightful. But so far from progressing, he has lapsed back into savagery, and the last condition is worse than the first. Not a few years back there were thousands and tens of thousands of fanatics in the North whose one aim in life seemed to be to give the negroes of the South control of government in the Southern States. There is a marked change of sentiment, however, since the Northern people themselves have come face to face with the negro question.

## Our Export Trade.

Our export trade for January showed a gratifying increase. There was a falling off in imports and a considerable gain in exports. The excess of merchandise exports over imports for the month amounted to \$50,000,000, against \$180,000,000 in 1903. On the other hand, there was a large increase in the imports of gold, amounting to \$8,225,000, against something less than \$2,000,000 in January, 1903.

For seven months, ending July 31st, our merchandise exports amounted to \$263,000,000, against \$258,000,000 in 1903; and gold imports amounted to \$30,000,000, against \$32,000,000 in 1903. The excess of gold imports over exports for that period amounted to \$40,000,000, against \$17,000,000 for the previous year, and \$10,000,000 for 1903.

It has been the contention of this paper for several years past that the present period of prosperity would last longer than other periods, for the reason that our export trade had grown in enormous proportions. There was a time when our export trade was comparatively small. We lived within ourselves under the protective tariff scheme. Our manufacturing concerns supplied the home demand, and when that demand was not equal to the supply, there was a large accumulation of goods and a consequent shutting down of factories, which brought on a period of hard times. But now, when the home demand is supplied, we find a market abroad for our surplus products, and although the profit on the goods exported is not so great as on the goods sold at home, thanks to the tariff, the factories are kept going and the employees of factories are kept at work. It seems reasonably sure, therefore, that so long as we can keep up our foreign trade; so long as we are able to find a market abroad for our surplus products, we may count on a fair proportion of prosperity at home.

## A Hard Winter.

A Multitude, Fla., correspondent writes to a Savannah paper that this has been the coldest winter ever known in Florida—"in continuous cold, is meant"—but that peach trees "have fruit on them bigger than a man's thumb and a large crop is in sight thus early in the season."

This has been a remarkably cold winter in Virginia, too, in the aggregate. Talk about the winter of 1859, but the great snow, which made that season memorable, did not fall until the 15th of January, while here we have been having winter weather—off and on—mostly "on"—since November.

Colder "snaps" we certainly have had, and the navigation of Virginia rivers and bays has been interfered with more, but all observers must allow that the opportunities for harvesting ice and for

skating have been extraordinary. And, what is more, the freezing weather is upon us still.

## The Military.

The Times-Dispatch does not believe in calling out the military, unless the civil authorities are not able to control the situation. But when the troops are ordered out, the force should be sufficiently strong to overawe the mob. To send an insufficient force, so far from preserving order, is but to provoke the mob and invite attack.

The Baltimore papers report that the hotels of that city are now-a-days crowded to the limit of their capacity. "The boarding houses also are feeling the boom caused by the arrival of strangers. The destruction of the Carrollton, Ganshorn's and Mullin's Hotels is partly responsible for the extra pressure on the remaining hostleries." As it is, many persons who have business in Baltimore lodge in Washington, and go back and forth daily.

It is not true as some suppose, that the property owned by the Johns Hopkins Hospital and destroyed in the fire was not insured. It was insured in the ordinary way, though the percentage of loss covered by the insurance is not yet known; but it is certain that the income of the hospital will be much impaired for a year or two.

As soon as this cold spell passes, the people of Richmond will discover that the municipal campaign is upon them. Then the war in the East and the Legislature and even the presidential contest will be sidetracked until a Democratic primary decides who are to be the party's nominees for mayor, councilmen, etc. Then the voice of the local statesman will be heard in the land, but it will not be very potent at the primary unless he can show that he has paid his poll tax as required by law. As for candidates for the various positions to be filled, we suppose they will be more numerous than ever, inasmuch as the expenses of the primary election will be paid out of the treasury of the city of Richmond.

Richmond Pearson Hobson is not afraid of work. At the present time he is engaged in running for Congress in the Sixth Alabama District, and in furnishing a syndicate with reviews of the naval battles between the Russians and Japanese. He is stumping the district. His opponent is the incumbent, John H. Bankhead.

The contest is to be decided by primary election, we suppose.

In all likelihood Congress will consent to increase the salary of the rural free delivery carrier from \$600 to \$720 a year.

Fully one-fourth of the rural carriers were compelled to resign last year because they could not afford to furnish their own horses, vehicles and other necessary equipments, and make a thirty-mile drive each day in all kinds of weather, for \$50 a month.

Of course, Mr. Roosevelt will have a walkover for the nomination, but it takes more than a nomination to land a man in the White House.

Some talk is heard about the Democrats of New Jersey nominating Mr. Cleveland for Governor of that State. It is all talk, we guess.

The run-down condition of the mercury in the thermometer is the cause of serious apprehension or the part of its friends.

Roanoke can hold a big crowd very comfortably, and her people want the Democratic State Convention.

Roanoke had a fine show, anyhow. A military display is a pretty thing to behold, even on a cold, windy day.

Mr. Bryan has picked out some able statesmen to work on a platform. They may fool him.

And the Japs have the luck on their side, too. Real, good luck goes a long way in a fight.

Cotton is still king, but his throne isn't quite so comfortable as it was awhile ago.

When the springtime comes this year, gentle Annie, it is liable to get frost-bitten.

## With a Comment or Two.

"No, sir! We go into no court at Cherryville where judge and jury are already fixed against us in advance by a jug concealed behind the barn. Couldn't expect a court like that to rule that the anti-lug law applies anywhere."—Gastonia Gazette.

Contempt of court, by George—Charlotte Observer.

One hundred dollars fine and thirty days in "the barn."

The crop editor of The Times-Dispatch says: "Virginia tillers of the soil have never learned how to plow land that is hard frozen or covered with snow, and that is why farming operations are so far behind."

How much plowing do the Virginia farmers do in January?—Newport News Times-Herald.

Well, how much plowing does the crop editor of the T. D. do?—Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

Weather conditions being favorable, were plowing "turning over" of corn and tobacco land is done in some parts of Virginia in January and February than in any other two months of the year. When weather conditions are not favorable, as now, farming operations are delayed. The C. E. of the T. D., having once been a plow-boy, knows whereof he speaks and hopes the distinguished "know

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alls" of the Tidewater dailies are now satisfied.

"North Carolina, not Pittsburg, is furnishing the iron and steel that goes into the Richmond sky-scrapers. Do you mind that?"

Not at all. North Carolina is ever ready to help her neighbors.—Raleigh Post.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch says the Supreme Court of Appeals has been asked to pass on the question, "How old was Ann?" We trust the learned justices have taken the precaution to refer the matter to the State of Virginia or Staunton—Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

They wisely decided that the judiciary had nothing to do with Ann's age.

## Personal and General.

Senator Ankeny understands the Indian language perfectly, and acted as interpreter the other day in Washington when a group of Yakima Indians were presented to the President at the White House.

Captain William McCleave, a retired army officer and one of the most conspicuous figures in the military development of the West, and one of the greatest Indian fighters of the army, has just died in San Francisco.

Rev. G. Campbell Morgan, the London preacher, at present visiting this country, holding meetings in various cities, has been given a call by the members of the Second Presbyterian Church, Chicago, but has not yet decided whether he would accept.

Miss Margaret Sherwood, of the English department of Wellesley College, has written an opera, which will shortly be produced in Boston.

Representative Nehemiah D. Sperry, of the Second Connecticut District, is the father of the House, in a class by himself. He was seventy-five years old at his last birthday, and yet his step is as elastic and his mind as bright as when he first entered politics away back in the fifties. Mr. Sperry is one of the founders of the Republican party in Connecticut, and was Secretary of State for Connecticut when only twenty-seven years of age, and during Lincoln's time was secretary of the Republican Committee and of the Executive Committee of Seven. For twenty-eight years he was postmaster of New Haven, having been named by Lincoln the first time.

## A Few Foreign Facts.

Kaiser Wilhelm is now a year younger than was either Wellington or Napoleon at the time of Waterloo.

King Edward is a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, also of the Royal College of Surgeons, having studied medicine and surgery at a good deal while Prince of Wales. Two of his predecessors on the English throne, Henry VIII. and Charles I., were also physicians.

Paul D'Estournelles, Constant, the French diplomat, who for a long time has been recognized as the most enthusiastic worker for universal disarmament, will lecture at the St. Louis World's Fair on "Modern Diplomacy and Arbitration."

In order to encourage builders to make the Russian capital a thing of beauty the City Council of St. Petersburg has declared its intention of exempting from taxation all new buildings which shall be adorned with statues of Russian emperors and empresses. It is doubtful whether our law-makers would approve of such a course, but it appears a powerful way to bring about the object.

Among the most picturesque of trades people in the East are the Turkish merchants of Smyrna. Scores of these quaint old characters are to be found in Cairo. The stock of a single merchant is frequently of great value, yet he is content to display it much the same as an Italian in an American city displays his fruit. The stones are laid out in little piles and parcels on a little stand which may be carried from place to place.

# MONUMENT TO SIR WALTER

Treasurer of Fund Has on Hand But Small Part of Necessary Funds.

## RALEIGH SUMMER SCHOOL

President Winston Anticipates Largest Attendance in History. Strong Faculty Secured.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

RALEIGH, N. C., Feb. 17.—J. W. Bailey, manager of the North Carolina Anti-Saloon League, says he has assurances from seven North Carolina congressmen that they will support the Hepburn-Dolliver anti-jug bill; that three others express themselves favorably and two have not replied to letters he wrote sounding them on the question. He says the bill aims only to give the people prohibition where they vote for it. The summer school at the Agricultural and Mechanical College in this city will be held this year, from July 1st to Aug. 1st, and President Winston says he fully expects to have an attendance of 1000. An unusually strong faculty has been engaged for the month, and applications are already being received for enrollment and lodging.

Rev. John C. Kille, president of Trinity College, has been chosen by the College of Bishops of the Methodist Church, South, as the fraternal messenger to the general conference of the Northern Methodist Church, to meet in Los Angeles in May.

Treasurer Joseph G. Brown, of the Sir Walter Raleigh Monument Fund, says he now has on hand \$50. The purpose of the movement is to raise by popular contributions a fund to erect a monument in Nash Square, this city.

HAS NOT DECIDED.

The Supreme Court has made an order for an instantanet certiorari on the clerk of the Jones County Court for the records of the trial of Alfred Danile, colored, for the murder of the late Fumford Simmons, father of United States Senator Simmons, and the case has been set for argument on the merits of the appeal next week.

Captain V. E. McGehee says the Vanderbilt is not behind him in his proposition now before the Governor for the lease of the Atlantic and North Carolina. A condition of the proposed lease is to build an extension from Newbern to Washington, and Plymouth, to connect with the Norfolk and Southern, and the case has been announced. The full text of the proposal has just been given to the public. It shows the interest of the stock to be 2 1/2 per cent. for the first ten years; three per cent. for the second ten years; four per cent. for the third ten years; five per cent. for the fourth ten years; six per cent. for the fifth ten years, and seven per cent. for the remaining forty-nine years. The Governor still has the proposition under consideration.

Judge Thomas R. Purnell, in the United States Court yesterday, issued an order declaring the Dunn Hardware and Furniture Company, of Dunn, bankrupt, and designating S. H. MacRae, of Fayetteville, as referee, to take the business in hand. The Gordon Metal Company, of Richmond, and the Southern Supply Company, of Norfolk, are among the petitioning creditors.

## SPENCER SCHOOL.

President Samuel Spencer Contributes Liberally to Education.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) SALISBURY, N. C., Feb. 17.—The citizens of the town of Spencer are preparing a petition to be presented to the Board of Aldermen asking for an election, to be called for the purpose of voting a special tax for the maintenance of the Spencer public schools. This is a regular nine-months' term has been maintained, but no adequate provision has been made for its support. The town has now grown to such proportions that it is absolutely necessary to provide the necessary money. President Samuel Spencer, of the Southern Railway, contributes \$500 annually towards the support of the school.

The stockholders of the Spencer Investment Company, which was incorporated in 1891, with a capital stock of \$20,000, held their first meeting Monday and accepted the large three-story brick bank and office building recently erected at that place. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Dr. J. W. Young, president; Dr. W. F. Snider, secretary, and Mr. W. F. Snider, treasurer.

## Trial Again Postponed.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) SALISBURY, N. C., Feb. 17.—Thomas and Chalmers White, of Concord, were arraigned before Superior Court today for the killing of Russell Sherrill, at Mt. Uila, on September 17th. The State announced that they were ready to try the defendants, through their attorneys, presented an elaborate affidavit showing that Miss Annie White, one of the most prominent witnesses, concerning the shooting of Sherrill, was too unwell to attend court. The case was then continued until the September term. The attorneys were ordered to give bonds of \$25,000 each and returned to their homes.

## Lecture on Liquid Air.

Dr. J. Rufus Hunter, of the chair of chemistry will give the third in the series of lectures at the Raleigh Hotel this evening. His subject is "Liquid Air," and the lecture will consist largely of experiments with liquid air.

Dr. Hunter has visited the factory which makes the "air" and will describe the process of manufacture. The experiments he will perform will be such as to show the properties of this interesting substance. He will show that ice will make this air boil as it does water, that boiling water will almost instantly freeze by it, and he will make a hammer of mercury and drive nails with it. Carbonic acid gas is quickly frozen while illuminating gas and alcohol are readily made solid by it. Granberries will be frozen while being stirred by a burning piece of cotton.

The lecture will begin promptly at 8:15 o'clock. The public is invited, and no tickets are necessary.

## DON'T NEGLECT

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Royal Baking Powder is used in baking by the best people everywhere.

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## DUNN'S OTHER BANK CLOSED

State Bank Examiner in Charge Until Receiver Can be Appointed.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

RALEIGH, N. C., Feb. 17.—State Bank Examiner J. O. Ellington notified the Corporation Commission this morning that he finds the Bank of Dunn is insolvent, and the commission instructed him to take charge and hold the assets until a receiver can be appointed. It was only a few days ago that the Merchants' and Farmers' Bank, the only other bank of the town, closed its doors and W. A. Stewart was appointed receiver.

The president of the Bank of Dunn is L. J. Best and the cashier J. W. Purdie. The capital was \$20,000, and the last report showed resources of the bank were \$57,075.23; deposits subject to check amounted to \$25,144.70, and time certificates of deposit, \$2,468.70.

## CAUSED GREAT SURPRISE.

Bank Had Ample Cash on Hand to Meet Its Demands.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

DUNN, N. C., Feb. 17.—It came as a flash of lightning from a clear sky, an announcement that the Bank of Dunn had been closed by the Corporation Commission early this morning. There had been no run on the bank, and it had ample cash on hand to meet its demands. The cause of the order of the commission closing the bank is not known. In such failure of the two banks here, in such quick succession, has seriously disturbed business conditions, but the energetic citizens of Dunn are sure that it is only temporary, and they are undaunted.

## NEGRO CONFERENCE.

Large Gathering at Tuskegee. Resolutions Adopted.

(By Associated Press.)

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Feb. 17.—Booker T. Washington called to order the thirteenth annual Tuskegee Negro Conference in the chapel of the college. More than two thousand negro farmers from the Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama. There were also in attendance many men prominent in philanthropic work, including Dr. W. Frank Butler, of the General Education Board; Dr. J. H. Johnson, of the Southern Education Board; Hammond Lamant, of the New York Evening Post; Dr. H. T. Johnson, of the Christian Recorder, of Philadelphia, and others of equal prominence.

After a session of several hours resolutions were adopted embodying the sentiment of the conference. These resolutions declare the faith of the conference in efforts to secure home and land for the negro; the exercise of thrift; keeping out of debt; getting rid of the low, cabin idea; building of churches and schools; lengthening of the school term; building of good public roads; the regular and prompt payment of all taxes, and making agricultural life more attractive. In connection with the educational, industrial, and high standard of morality was urged, and that teachers and ministers should be careful to maintain the highest standards of living. The resolutions declare that the moral condition of the negro race in the South is improving, and that there is no evidence that education increases crime among the negroes. They urge harmony and mutual confidence between the races, and that the whites put a premium upon right conduct and high living among the blacks. The negro is urged to refrain from crime and to join with the whites in the maintenance of law and order.

## North Carolina Sentiment.

The Greensboro Telegram is easily frightened.

In the light of fires here and elsewhere the news that Rockefeller has cornered all the asbestos is alarming. There ought to be a reasonably brisk demand for asbestos in these times.

The Raleigh Post explains it thus: Mr. William R. Hearst has had himself organized into a trust under the laws of New Jersey and taken over the control of his three papers published in New York city. Now, if he will take over the Commonwealth with his Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles papers the contribution will be as natural and logical as complete.

The Wilmington Messenger sums up a good deal of Carolina sentiment in the following:

The newspapers over the State continue to call upon the mayors to enforce the vagrancy laws and never refrain from commenting every instance in which a vagrant is sent to the chain gang and made to work for the county, if he will not do for himself. The mayors of most of the towns have been paying particular attention to this class of criminals of late.

The Raleigh News-Observer fires this pointed barbed shot:

President Harper is out in an interview.



## The Alarm Failed to Ring

and you overslept yourself. This is the result of an inferior alarm clock. If you wish one that will go, keep excellent time, and will not fail to ring and awake you on time—get an Allen's Special, guaranteed, \$3.00.

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MARGROVE, The Painter. Phone 2548. 810 E. Franklin St.

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## SCHNURMAN, Tailor and Haberdasher,

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saying that professors in the Chicago University "have a right to say what they please," and he added: "The University stands for free speech." Exactly. But no professor ever yet discussed the Standard Oil Trust. You will not hear one do it any more than you will hear a